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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 through 5, 7, 12-14, 16, and 18-29 are pending, and claims 6, 8-11, 15 and 17 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. The applicants appreciate the indication that claims 1-5, 7, and 12-14 are allowed, and that claims 17, 20, and 22-25 would be allowed if amended to include the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 16 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 17. New claims 26-29 include claim 16 amended to include the limitations of claims 19 and 20, 21 (depending from claim 26, which includes the limitations of claims 19 and 20), 22, and 25, each of which were indicated to be allowable if so amended. Applicants note that claim 23 was objected to as depending from a rejected claim, and further note that claim 23 in fact depended from an allowable claim, namely, claim 1.

All pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks and for various other reasons readily apparent, Applicants submit that all of the claims now present are allowable, and withdrawal of the rejection and a Notice of Allowance are courteously solicited.

If any impediment to the allowance of the claims remains after consideration of this amendment, a telephone interview with the Examiner is hereby requested by the undersigned at (214) 939-8657 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

No fee is believed to be due at this time. If any applicable fee or refund has been overlooked, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or credit any refund to the deposit account of Godwin Gruber LLP, No. 500530.

Dated: January 19, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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By

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